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Writing the Pain of Others: a Stroll with Disturbance

Rethinking ethical agency by way of practice-based research

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The project *May and the Potentiality of Pain* started its life as a text essay in Swedish originally called “May och smärta utan smärtan”, published in Paletten Art Magazine no. 2: 2014-#196.

Rescripted, it turned into a conference presentation for the interdisciplinary event *London Conference in Critical Thought* (2014-06). (Archival images courtesy of The Women’s Library @LSE.)
A few months later, the paper presentation transformed into a lecture performance featuring a reading accompanied with a series of still images.

Scripting/Re-scripting is a strategy I use to intertwine my work presentations with the process of writing and becoming. It is important to me that the exhibited or performed artwork does not represent finality, much like a personalized feeling of pain does not represent pain intensities, or individual pain.

May and the Potentiality of Pain, the reading. Recorded at The University of Cumbria, Brampton road campus 2015-04.
TEXT-BECOMING
SCRIPTING PAIN
DOCUMENTING BODIES
It's always three o'clock in the morning (2016), video excerpts

This world, they say, is impassable for me

'You cannot traverse it'

Still, I will live a hair-shirted life

I will lead it as discretely as I can, so that no one will notice
Even as I lay beside them every night

The habit of pain will govern my self

Instead of letting my body being regulated by men

I will regulate it through pain
References


